Fort Wingate BRAC 1988

Size: 22.120 acres

Mission Stored, shipped, and received ammunition components and disposed of obsolete or deteriorated

explosives and ammunition

HRS Score: NA IAG Status: None

Contaminants: Explosive compounds, UXO, PCBs, pesticides, heavy metals,

asbestos, and lead-based paint

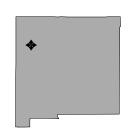
Media Affected: Groundwater and soil

Funding to Date: \$23.1 million

Estimated Cost to Completion (Completion Year): \$29.8 million (FY2030)

Final Remedy in Place or Response Complete Date for BRAC Sites: FY2005

Gallup, New Mexico



Restoration Background

From 1949 to 1993, Fort Wingate stored, tested, and demilitarized munitions. Past practices deposited ordnance-related waste on and off the installation. Restoration efforts have focused on land affected by unexploded ordnance (UXO); the Open Burning and Open Detonation (OB/OD) Area; soil at a pistol range; pesticide-contaminated soil at Building 5; explosives-contaminated soil at the former Bomb Washout Plant Lagoons; polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) contamination in Buildings 501 and 11; demolition of the former Bomb Washout Plant (Building 503); and three unpermitted solid waste landfills.

In FY94, the installation commander formed a BRAC cleanup team (BCT) and a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB). In FY95, the installation revised the BRAC Cleanup Plan (BCP). The Army conducted a Removal Action to clear UXO from Indian tribal lands adjacent to the OB/OD Area. Remedial Designs (RDs) were completed for the pistol range and for Building 5 soil.

In FY96, the Army reached an agreement in principle with regulatory agencies on developing a binding installationwide cleanup agreement. The installation conducted additional fieldwork for a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) and completed field investigations at the three unpermitted solid waste landfills. Groundwater contamination was detected at the former TNT Washout Plant.

In FY97, the installation began negotiations with regulators on a cleanup agreement, which will help resolve overlapping jurisdictions applicable to closure of the OB/OD Area under RCRA.

FY98 Restoration Progress

The installation completed RD for the Group C and Central Landfills and awarded contracts for the Remedial Action (RA). The Army remediated PCB-contaminated soil at Buildings 536 and 537 and excavated and disposed of pesticide-contaminated soil from Building 5 at an approved off-site facility. The excavated soil was replaced with clean fill and turfing.

The field program confirmed the extent of groundwater contamination with explosives and defined the northern extent of nitrite and nitrate groundwater contamination at the former TNT Washout Plant. Subsurface soil was characterized in preparation for evaluating RD options. The Army installed monitoring wells at the Bomb Washout Plant site and the OB/OD unit. The installation actively solicited regulatory involvement in well siting and the field program and used regulator input.

The installation demolished Building 501 and disposed of PCB-contaminated building materials at a licensed off-site facility. At Building 503, explosives-contaminated process equipment was flash-flamed to remove residues. The process equipment was recycled, and the building materials were disposed of off-site.

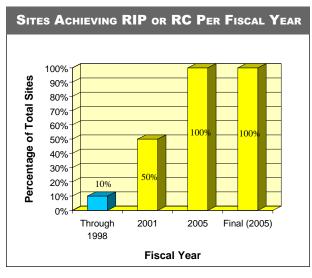
Discussions with regulators have clarified additional requirements that should be included in a post-closure care plan for the OB/OD unit. All sites outside the OB/OD unit have been investigated, except for Building 11, where a potential release of PCBs to the environment was identified, and Functional Test Range 1 (FTR1), where potential disposal sites were discovered. Investigation of FTR1 is under way.

The installation intensively coordinated with regulators to define the regulatory mechanisms for cleanup and closure.

The RAB met quarterly and reviewed all RAs. The installation initiated efforts to increase public attendance at the RAB meetings and to make the RAB membership more representative of the community. RAB members served as observers at BCT meetings. The BCT convened quarterly to discuss technical and regulatory issues and define the work for installation closure and transfer. The BCT coordinated all RAs, RDs, investigations, and other activities.

Plan of Action

- · Conduct asbestos abatement at 11 buildings in FY99-FY00
- In FY99, plan and conduct Human Health and Ecological Baseline Risk Assessments
- In FY99, design plan to remediate PCBs in Building 11 and investigate potential releases of PCBs into the environment
- · In FY99, complete investigating the disposal pits at FTR1
- · In FY99, conduct installationwide surface water assessments
- · In FY99, petition for No Further Action at specific areas
- In FY99, complete UXO clearance and install institutional controls to facilitate transfer of southern properties
- In FY99, develop and submit a draft application for a post-closure care permit
- In FY00, complete RAs at Group C and Central Landfills
- · In FY00, remediate the Western Landfill
- In FY00, close and remediate the OB/OD Area, implement installationwide cleanup of soil contamination, continue evaluating groundwater contamination



Army A–84